

More than Highways and Bridges

Other Modes of Transportation

A variety of transportation modes offer mobility to millions of Missourians. In addition to the highways that crisscross the state, waterways, railways, public transportation, bike/ped trails and aviation complete the transportation picture in Missouri. MoDOT works with communities to determine and evaluate all their transportation options.

Waterways

Two of the nation's largest inland waterways, the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, flow through Missouri, providing the state with numerous opportunities for waterborne commerce. Approximately 3.8 million tons of material pass through Missouri's public port authorities.

The waterways program includes administrative grants and capital improvements for Missouri's public port authorities. There is no dedicated funding for the port program, and it is subject to legislative general-revenue appropriation each year.

The capital-improvement grants assist ports with capital expenditures such as dock construction, road improvements or site development. A prioritized 5-year capital investment

program was developed to allow the public port authorities to become economically viable to Missouri's economy.

In FY 2002, MoDOT helped the St. Joseph Regional Port construct a cargo dock. Other capital projects completed include right of way acquisition for a rail spur at the Pemiscot County Port, wetland mitigation at New Bourbon Regional Port and dock improvements at Howard-Cooper County Port.

Railroads

Missouri is located in the central corridor of the nation's railroad transportation system, with the second and third largest rail hubs in the nation, behind only Chicago. Approximately 50 percent of the nation's freight



products are moved by the rail system. The rail system also is critical to the nation's passenger rail transportation and Missouri's service between St. Louis and Kansas City.

Passenger Rail

Two round trips per day are currently provided between St. Louis and Kansas City, with stops in Kirkwood, Washington, Hermann, Jefferson City, Sedalia, Warrensburg, Lee's Summit and Independence. In FY 2002, service was provided to more than 188,000 passengers. There is no dedicated funding source for passenger rail, so this service is subject to legislative general-revenue appropriation each year.

Highway / Rail Crossing Safety

There are approximately 3,900 public highway/rail crossings in Missouri. These crossings are evaluated and ranked according to train traffic, train speed, vehicle traffic, vehicle speed and sight distance in order to receive safety-improvement funds. On average, it costs \$150,000 for highway/rail safety improvements, meaning only the top 30-40 projects can be addressed annually.

Railroad Safety

MoDOT works to assure a safe rail-transportation industry in Missouri. The state participates in a joint compliance program with the Federal

Railroad Administration to focus on public safety through reducing train incidents. Industry property and equipment such as track, signals, bridges and engines are routinely inspected to assure safety compliance. MoDOT is responsible for inspecting more than 7,500 miles of track and 4,100 crossings.

Bicycle/Pedestrian

MoDOT encourages and coordinates efforts to improve conditions for walking and bicycling within the state. The department reviews and recommends bicycle and pedestrian friendly standards for transportation projects. In FY 2002, MoDOT installed Share the Road signs at strategic locations around the state to remind and advise motorists that other modes of transportation are present.

The department also helped communities connect with more than \$35 million in state and federal enhancement funds for 90 different bicycle pedestrian projects.

Transit

Through the use of state and federal funds, MoDOT helps make it possible for communities to offer low-cost alternative transportation. MoDOT also provides technical assistance for

public-transit programs, which includes urban and rural public buses, public transportation for the elderly and disabled, and commuter light rail in the St. Louis area.

In FY 2002, MoDOT helped more than 100 transit providers buy 273 vehicles, such as buses, modified vans, minivans and station wagons. The services also included factory inspection and assistance with legal requirements. MoDOT donated land at Route 40 and Ballas Road in the St. Louis area for a Kiss and Ride station, allowing commuters to quickly drive into a pull-off and drop off passengers to catch the bus.

Through a partnering opportunity, MoDOT granted a local transit provider in Jackson County federal funds to officially break ground on a storage and maintenance facility for the Jackson County Board of Services. The project is scheduled for completion in 2003.

The Kansas City Area Transit Authority and MoDOT kicked off a project that will replace and upgrade a bus radio system connecting to a citywide intelligent transportation system. This network will transmit voice information and provide real-time data, such as bus locations, allowing the transit system to be used more efficiently.





Aviation

MoDOT administers both federal and state aviation funds to eligible airports in Missouri. The Federal Aviation Administration oversees funding to larger passenger-service airports. Funds can be used for planning, purchasing, construction, maintenance and improvement of aviation facilities. Missouri is one of nine states administering federal funds under the Block Grant Program.

In FY 2002, a total of \$9.3 million in federal funds and \$7.2 million in state funds were invested in Missouri's aviation system. Projects included the construction of the new North Central Missouri Regional Airport between the communities of Marceline and Brookfield, replacing two deficient airports. This was the sixth new airport built by MoDOT since 1990.

Missouri currently leads the nation in new airport construction.

Following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the United States, MoDOT focused on improving communications and enhancing general-aviation airport security. Packets were provided to all public use airports containing a security bulletin, eight airport security signs and a questionnaire to supply MoDOT with information to track progress. The signs, produced by MoDOT's sign shop, helped small airports identify operating and restricted areas at the airport.

MoDOT also completed security enhancements to the perimeter fencing at the Spirit of St. Louis Airport and upgraded the security monitoring system at the Kansas City Downtown Airport.

MoDOT was awarded the FAA Central Region's Security Enhancement Award in 2002 for sponsoring a Mobile Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Trainer, a realistic live-fire trainer designed to prepare emergency personnel at passenger-service airports.

The trainer, which can be transported between airports, simulates several aircraft emergency situations. It is owned by MoDOT and operated by the University of Missouri's Fire Rescue and Training Institute through a cooperative agreement.

